

GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM

January 20, 2006

Hello, this is Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Just a few days ago, I was very excited to announce that a California technology company called Advanced Photonix is picking up and heading to Michigan. In fact, this high-tech firm has decided to consolidate their California and Wisconsin operations in Ann Arbor, their new home, where they'll create dozens of new jobs.

This is great news for Michigan. It's a perfect example of how we're recruiting businesses from around the nation and the world. And it's also an example of our unparalleled commitment to grow high-tech jobs of the future.

That's been our focus during a two week jobs tour around Michigan. This is letting businesses know about our recently signed economic diversification initiative – the \$2 billion 21st Century Jobs Fund.

This is a fund that's part of our comprehensive Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan to grow Michigan's economy.

With these new investment dollars, it'll attract new business, help new Michigan companies get off the ground, and it will diversify our economy.

And we are putting it to work starting this year – in fact, starting right now – by inviting employers to apply for grants and loans to help them conduct new research, develop new technology, and, most importantly, create new jobs.

Our tour, to spread the word about the 21st Century Jobs Fund, is taking us to 13 Michigan cities, from Troy's Automation Alley to Michigan Tech in the UP.

In fact, I was just this week in Flint and Grand Rapids, where I met with business leaders and researchers and entrepreneurs to discuss how they can access the \$400 million in investment available first this year, in 2006.

We're making every effort to reach out to the business community about the 21st Century Jobs Fund. To learn more, I encourage all our high-tech business people and our entrepreneurs to navigate online to www.michigan.org, where you can find a complete listing of the cities on our jobs tour, and general information about the fund, as well.

If you are a business designing the next life saving drug or the next generation fuel cell, if you manufacture high-tech components for cars or computers, if you are a business anywhere in Michigan that wants to succeed in the life sciences, advanced manufacturing, alternative energy or defense technology, we want to do business with you.

Thank you for listening.